What is claimed is:

1. A chemically etched textile with a surface having regions of color contrast and corresponding regions of three-dimensional surface geometry, said textile comprising:

(a) a first side, said first side having at least one first region, said first region having a pile, said pile being comprised of first yarns having first distal ends, said first distal ends collectively forming an upper plane of said first side of said fabric, said first yarns having applied thereon a dye, said first region having a first color shade; and

(b) at least one second region upon said first side of said fabric, said second region comprising a plurality of second yarns having respective second distal ends, wherein at least a portion of said second distal ends are eroded by chemical etching to a position beneath said upper plane, said second region having a second color shade that differs in L* value from said first color shade.

2. The textile of claim 1 wherein wherein said first color shade and said second color shade differ in L* value by at least about 25 percent.

3. A chemically etched knitted or woven textile comprising:

(a) a first region, said first region having a pile of first yarns providing a first height, said first region further providing a first color shade; and

(b) an eroded second region, said eroded second region comprising a pile of second yarns having a second height which has been eroded by a chemical etching composition, said eroded second region providing a second color shade;

(c) wherein said first color shade and said second color shade differ in L* color shade value by at least about 20 percent.

4. The textile of claim 3 wherein said eroded second region provides a second color shade that is lighter than said first color shade.

5. The textile of claim 3 wherein said color shade value differs by at least about 25 percent.

6. The textile of claim 5 wherein said first yarns and said second yarns are comprised of polyester fibers.

7. The textile of claim 3 wherein said first regions and said eroded second regions are provided upon said textile in a predetermined geometric pattern, said pattern being applied in a screen printing process.

8. The textile of claim 3 wherein said second yarns of said eroded second region and said first region each comprise yarns which are greige yarns at the time the fabric is constructed.

9. A screen printed textile comprising:

(a) a first region, said first region having a pile of first yarns, said first yarns providing a pile having a first height, said first region further providing a first color shade;

(b) an eroded second region, said eroded second region comprising a pile of second yarns having a second height, said second yarns being degradable by a chemical etching composition, said second height being less than said first height, said eroded second region providing a second color shade; and

(c) wherein said first color shade and said second color shade differ in color shade value by at least about 25 percent.

10. The screen printed textile of claim 9 wherein multiple first regions are positioned so as to be inter-dispersed within multiple second eroded second regions.

11. The textile of claim 9 wherein said eroded second region and said first region each comprise a plurality of yarns, said plurality of yarns each having dye applied to said yarns.

12. The textile of claim 11 wherein dye is applied to said yarns by a continuous dyeing process.

13. The textile of claim 11 wherein dye is fixed to said yarns by a thermosol process or a steaming process.

14. A method of making a woven or knitted fabric having corresponding color contrast and surface geometry contrast between first regions and second regions in the fabric, said method comprising:

(a) providing a fabric, said fabric having yarns forming a pile, said first pile having a first pile height, said fabric having first regions and second regions;

(b) providing dye in an unfixed state into said yarns of said fabric;

(c) etching said fabric upon said pile in a predetermined pattern by applying to said pile of said second regions a yarn-degrading composition, said yarn-degrading composition being effective to degrade yarns in said second regions, thereby forming in said second regions yarns having a second pile height;

(d) fixing said dye in said first and second regions;

(e) forming a fabric having first regions of a first pile height and second regions of a second pile height, said second pile height being less than said first pile height; and

(f) generating a substantial color contrast which provides a predetermined positive ΔL^* value differential between said first regions and said second regions.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein said color contrast ΔL^* value is at least about 25 percent.

16. A method of making a fabric by chemically etching fibers of the fabric, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a fabric having a first side, said first side having a pile, said pile comprising a plurality of yarns having a first height, said plurality of yarns forming a first plane in said fabric;

(b) applying to said first side of said fabric a solution containing an unfixed dye;

(c) applying a mask to said first side of said fabric;

(d) selectively covering with said mask predetermined portions of said fabric, said covered portions of said fabric comprising first regions, said uncovered portions of said fabric comprising second regions; wherein said first regions further comprise first yarns having unfixed dye applied thereon, said second regions further comprising second yarns having unfixed dye applied thereon;

(e) applying a chemical etching agent to said second regions of said fabric,

(f) chemically reacting said etching agent said second yarns of said second regions, thereby shortening by chemical degradation at least a portion of

said second yarns in said second regions to a second height which is less than said first height;

(g) removing unfixed dye in said second yarns of said second regions of said fabric;

(h) heating said fabric to fix said unfixed dye in said first and second regions of said fabric; and

(i) thereby forming a fabric having second regions which exhibit a different pile height and a different color intensity as compared to said first regions.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising the following steps:

(j) providing in said fabric a third region;

(k) applying a mask to said first side of said fabric to expose only said third region;

(l) applying unfixed dye to said third region;

(m) applying a chemical etching agent to said third region, thereby chemically etching said third region;

(n) heating said fabric to fix said unfixed dye in said third region; and

(o) thereby forming a fabric having third regions which exhibit a different pile height and a different color intensity as compared to said first and second regions.

18. A screen printed textile comprising:

(a) a first region, said first region having a pile of first yarns, said first yarns providing a pile having a first height, said first region further providing a first color shade; and

(b) an eroded second region, said eroded second region comprising a pile of second yarns having a second height, said second yarns being degradable by a chemical etching composition, said second height being less than said first height, said eroded second region providing a second color shade;

(c) an eroded third region, said eroded third region comprising a pile of third yarns having a third height, said third yarns being degradable by a chemical etching composition, said third height being less in value than the respective height of said first and second regions;

(d) wherein said first color shade and said second color shade differ in L* value; and

(e) wherein said second color shade and said third color shade differ in L* value.